

**DETECTION OF PATIENT MORTALITY BY
AN IMPLANTABLE MEDICAL DEVICE**

Abstract

5 An implantable cardiac rhythm management device is programmed and
configured to detect a death event. When such an event is detected, the device ceases
recording of physiological data, thus preserving in the device's memory the data
collected at and shortly before the time of death. A death event may be detected by
detecting of an absence of intrinsic electrical activity in the patient's heart and a lack
10 of an evoked response to a predetermined number of pacing pulses.

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